



United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0905

BILL NELSON  
FLORIDA

February 18, 2005

The Honorable John Shaw  
Assistant Secretary for Environmental Health and Safety  
Department of Energy (EH-1)  
1000 Independence Ave., SW  
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Assistant Secretary Shaw:

Thank you for favorably responding to my February 3, 2005, letter seeking full medical screenings and follow on care for the workers from the now defunct American Beryllium Co. It is my understanding you have developed a national program that will begin with the workers from American Beryllium in Tallevast, Florida and consulted with the Florida Department of Health on the program.

This new program will give American Beryllium workers the opportunity to receive free beryllium lymphocyte proliferation tests (BeLPT) at a local clinic by two national laboratories with specific expertise in beryllium testing to determine if they have developed beryllium sensitivity. If the test results are abnormal, the national laboratory will call the individual to discuss the test results and to explain that the individual is eligible for Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation (EEOICP) benefits. One abnormal test qualifies a worker under the EEOICP to receive lifetime medical monitoring through the Department of Labor (DOL). If an individual develops beryllium disease, they will receive \$150,000 and lifetime medical benefits through the DOL.

I appreciate the swiftness of your response to my request and I look forward to working with you on this very worthwhile initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Nelson".